GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7805
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2002
QUALITY OF ARTIFICIAL GEMS
C. SREENIVAASAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian artificial gems manufacturers are facing stiff competition from Chinese counter parts;

(b) whether Chinese gems manufacturers have outsmart our artificial gems manufacturers because of their superior quality;

(c) if so, the steps the Government have taken to see the quality of Indian artificial gems;

(d) the total foreign exchange earned by the Indian artificial gems manufacturers through export of artificial gems during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, year-wise;

(e) whether due to the superior quality of Chinese artificial gems export orders of Indian Artificial gems exporters have been cancelled;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps the Government have taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), an autonomous representative body of trade, sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has reported that China has specialized in production of calibrated artificial diamonds/synthetic stones which meet the requirement of the trade. However, their quality is not very good. China has capability of supplying calibrated sizes in bulk quantity within a short period. Therefore, there is a need to improve our technological capabilities, our production methods of artificial diamonds/synthetic stones, calibration of stones etc. in association with the States.

(d) The total foreign exchange earned through the Indian artificial gems industry by the exports of artificial gems during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, is as follows.

Year	US $ in Million
2000-2001	1.63
2001-2002	2.00 (estimated)

(The above figures relate to only exports of synthetic stones in loose form, and do not include synthetic stones exported as studdings in precious metal jewellery)

(e),(f) & (g) The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) has no data in this regard available with them.